

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 018261  
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY EA/VLC:JRJOHNSON:JY  
APPROVED BY EA/VLC:JDROSENTHAL  
S/S:A.OTTO

-----271359Z 064527 /44

R 270158Z JAN 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO CINCPAC

S E C R E T STATE 018261

EXDIS MILITARY ADDEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR POLAD

FOLLOWING REPEAT VIENTIANE 0133 ACTION SECSTATE 26 JAN 77

QUOTE

S E C R E T VIENTIANE 0133

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2  
TAGS: PFOR LA UR US PDIP EAID  
SUBJ: SOVIET COMMENTS ON LAO NOTE TO REDUCE PERSONNEL IN US  
MISSION VIENTIANE

43\*: 76 VIENTIANE 2822

1. SOVIET COUNSELOR CHMANEVSKI APPROACHED POLOFF AT  
AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL DAY VIN D'HONNEUR JANUARY 26 TO  
SAY THAT HE HEARD THAT LAO HAD SENT NOTE ASKING US  
MISSION TO REDUCE ITS MISSION PERSONNEL STRENGTH. HE  
ASKED WHAT NUMBER WE PLANNED TO REDUCE TO. POLOFF  
SECRET

SECRET

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SUGGESTED THAT CHMANEVSKI TALK TO LAO ABOUT ANY NOTE  
FROM THEM.

2. CHMANEVSKI THEN STATED THAT NUMBER OF US PERSONNEL  
DEPENDENT ON ASSISTANCE WE GAVE LAO TO "HEAL THE WOUNDS  
OF WAR". POLOFF NOTED THAT THAT PHRASE HAD BEEN USED  
IN PARIS AGREEMENT BETWEEN US AND VIETNAM AND THAT TWO

LAO FACTIONS HAD USED IT IN AGREEMENTS RESULTING FROM NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THEMSELVES BUT THAT US HAD NOT USED THIS PHRASE IN ANY AGREEMENTS WITH LAO.

CHMANEVSKI NOTED THAT US ASSISTANCE TO "HEAL WOUNDS OF WAR" REMAINED A PROBLEM FOR LPDR, AS PARTY SECRETARY GENERAL AND PRIMIN KAYSONE PHOMVIHANE HAD STATED IN HIS DECMEBER 1 ADDRESS ON OCCASION LAO NATIONAL DAY, REPORTED REFTEL.

3. CHMANEVSKI FURTHER NOTED THAT PRESIDENT CARTER'S INAUGURAL STATEMENTS HAD BEEN FORTHCOMING. HE ASKED WHAT NEW ADMINISTRATION'S POSITION WOULD BE TOWARDS "NORMALIZATION" OF RELATIONS WITH LAOS. POLOFF REPLIED THAT, AS PRESIDENT HAD MADE CLEAR IN HIS SPECIAL MESSAGE, US WANTED FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES OF WORLD. NEW ADMINISTRATION HAD BEEN IN OFFICE ONLY SIX DAYS, HOWEVER, AND POLOFF NOT AWARE OF ANY CHANGES IN US POLICY TOWARD LAOS. AS FOR "NORMALIZATION" OF RELATIONS, US CONTINUED TO MAINTAIN EMBASSY IN LPDR AND LAO IN US.

CORCORAN.  
UNQUOTE VANCE.

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, CONTACTS WITH COMMUNIST OFFICIALS, PERSONNEL SEPARATIONS, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Drafter:** JRJOHNSON:JY  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X2  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009